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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

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February 9, 1979

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Vice President

The Secretary of State

The Secretary of Defense

The Attorney General

The Secretary of Commerce

The Director, Office of Management and Budget

The Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs

The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff The Director of Central Intelligence

The Director, Office of Science and
Technology Policy

The Administrator, General Services
Administration

SUBJECT:

Telecommunications Protection Policy

The attached copy of PD/NSC-24 reflects a paragraph by paragraph classification of the original directive issued November 16, 1977.

You may recall that the responsibilities imposed by the original PD required that both the Departments of Defense and Commerce interrelate with the private sector telecommunications carriers, government contractors, and likely affected industries, and corporations. Further, and more specifically the PD tasked that the Secretary of Commerce shall act as the Executive Agent for communications protection for government-derived unclassified information and for dealing with the commercial and private sectors to enhance their communications protection and privacy.

The special subcommittee of the SCC for Telecommunications Protection concluded that the overall classification of the PD, in large part, stifled open and necessary dialogue with the commercial sector and as such impeded certain of the policy implementation functions called for by the document. Thus, in order to facilitate implementation, the OSTP and NSC were to assess and paragraph classify the document.

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Consistent with the tasking the reclassification effort continues to protect those more sensitive elements of the PD as determined by the NSA and CIA, and declassifies those elements necessary to be used by the executive agents in their dealings with the private sector.

Christine Dodson Staff Secretary

cc: The Secretary of the Treasury
 The Secretary of Transportation
 The Secretary of Energy
 The Director of National Security

Agency
Administrator, NASA
Director, ACDA
Manager, National Communications

Manager, National Communications
System

Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission